

What is claimed is:

1. A computer program for a controlling apparatus,
executing the procedures of:

monitoring a frequency of communications from said
5 controlling apparatus to the outside; and

detecting computer virus infection at the controlling
apparatus by means of comparing the monitored frequency of
communications with a preset threshold value.

2. A computer program of claim 1, wherein a procedure
10 of monitoring includes a procedure of monitoring a frequency
of communications from said controlling apparatus to a
plurality of external devices.

3. A computer program of claim 1, wherein said procedure
of monitoring includes a procedure of monitoring a frequency
15 of communications to a specific destination port.

4. A computer program of claim 1 further executing the
procedure of causing an image forming apparatus controlled
by said controlling apparatus to print out a warning content
when computer virus infection is detected.

20 5. A computer program of claim 1, wherein said procedure
of monitoring includes a procedure of monitoring a number
of packets transmitted from said controlling apparatus in
a unit time period.

6. A computer program of claim 1, wherein said procedure

of monitoring includes a procedure of monitoring a number of packets that are associated with a specific destination port number and transmitted from said controlling apparatus in a unit time period.

5 7. A computer program of claim 1, wherein said procedure of monitoring includes a procedure of monitoring a frequency of connection request packets transmitted from said controlling apparatus.

10 8. A computer program of claim 1, wherein said procedure of monitoring includes a procedure of monitoring a frequency of connection request packets that are associated with a specific destination port number and transmitted from said controlling apparatus.

15 9. A computer program of claim 1, wherein said controlling apparatus is a controller for controlling an image forming apparatus.

20 10. A controlling apparatus comprising:
a monitor for monitoring a frequency of communications from said controlling apparatus to the outside; and
a detector for detecting computer virus infection at said controlling apparatus by means of comparing the monitored frequency of communications with a preset threshold value.

11. A controlling apparatus of claim 10, wherein said monitor monitors a frequency of communications from said

controlling apparatus to a plurality of external devices.

12. A controlling apparatus of claim 10, wherein said monitor monitors a frequency of communications to a specified destination port.

5 13. A controlling apparatus of claim 10, wherein said monitor monitors a number of packets transmitted from said controlling apparatus in a unit time period.

10 14. A controlling apparatus of claim 10, wherein said monitor monitors a number of packets associated with a specific destination port number and transmitted from said controlling apparatus in a unit time period.

15 15. A controlling apparatus of claim 10, wherein said monitor monitors a frequency of connection request packets transmitted from said controlling apparatus.

16 16. A controlling apparatus of claim 10, wherein said monitor monitors a frequency of connection request packets that are associated with a specific destination port number and transmitted from said controlling apparatus.

20 17. A controlling apparatus of claim 10 is a controller for controlling an image forming apparatus.

18. A controlling apparatus of claim 10 further comprising a control unit for an image forming apparatus, wherein said control unit causes said image forming apparatus to print out a warning content when computer virus infection

is detected.

19. A controlling method used in a controlling apparatus,
comprising the steps of:

monitoring frequency of communications from said
5 controlling apparatus to the outside; and

detecting computer virus infection at the controlling
apparatus by means of comparing the monitored frequency of
communications with a preset threshold value.